Native Plant of the Month

Pearly Everlasting
*Anaphalis margaritacea*

- The flowers bloom in midsummer and leave behind “pearly-white” dry bracts which retain their color and shape for months.
- “Margaritacea” derives from a Greek work that means “a pearl.”
- The flowers attract pollinators such as syrphid flies, small wasps, and butterflies.
- The caterpillars of painted lady butterflies feed on the foliage.
- The foliage and young flowers have been used for healing throughout North America, and now Europe, where it has naturalized.

**Landscape Value**

Pearly everlasting is a drought-tolerant plant that creates clumps which die back each winter and return each spring to grow 1-3’ tall. By midsummer they are covered with clusters of white flowers which last through fall.

These are sturdy, reliable plants to include in sunny wildflower gardens where they provide critical habitat for native butterflies.

Plant with other sun-loving plants such as goldenrod, Oregon sunshine, lupine, farewell-to-spring, yarrow, bluebells and asters for a colorful perennial butterfly garden.

Text by Heidi Bohan
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